

DOCKET NO: 243294US6YA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
HIDEAKI MIYOSHI, ET AL. : EXAMINER: M. G. ARANCIBIA
SERIAL NO: 10/673,514 :
FILED: SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1763
FOR: PLASMA PROCESSING SYSTEM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated April 25, 2005, Applicants provisionally elect with traverse Group I, Claims 1-19, directed to a method of plasma processing. Applicants traverse the Restriction Requirement for the following reason.

MPEP § 803 states:

MPEP § 803

. . . If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

However, the outstanding Restriction Requirement has not established that an undue burden would exist if the Restriction Requirement was not issued and all the claims were examined together. Moreover, the claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Restriction requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Application Serial Number 10/673,514

Response to Restriction Requirement dated April 25, 2005

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single group be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-49 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

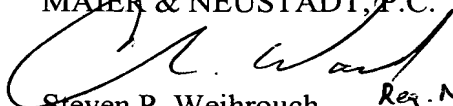
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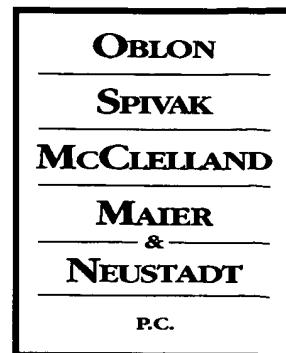
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Docket No.: 243294US6YA



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/673,514
Applicants: Hideaki MIYOSHI, et al.
Filing Date: September 30, 2003
For: PLASMA PROCESSING SYSTEM
Group Art Unit: 1763
Examiner: M. G. ARANCIBIA

SIR:

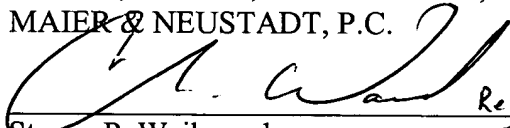
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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